

Message Text

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62

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-13 AID-20 SY-10 OPR-02 COME-00

EB-11 LAB-06 SIL-01 DRC-01 /175 W

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R 122020Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3567

INFO USCINCSO

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USCINCSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, AR

SUBJECT: ATTACK ON CLARIN BUILDING

1. THE KIDNAPPED LAWYER FOR CLARIN GAVE A PRESS CONFERENCE ON THE AFTERNOON OF SEP 11 AFTER BEING RELEASED HOURS BEFORE BY ERP (22 AUGUST FACTION) (SEE BA 6675). AS THE CONFERENCE WAS ENDING ON THE THIRD FLOOR A GROUP OF MEN--ESTIMATES RANGE BETWEEN 6 AND 50--ENTERED THE GROUND FLOOR. THEY IDENTIFIED THEMSELVES AS "RUCCI'S PEOPLE" (SECGEN OF CGT) AND DEMANDED TO KNOW WHERE ERP MEMBERS WERE. THEY THEN MACHINEGUNNED THE BUILDING AND SET IT ON FIRE.

2. SHOTS WERE EXCHANGED WITH THE ARRIVING POLICE AS THE ATTACKERS LEFT AND SEVERAL PEOPLE WERE INJURED. ONE OF THE GROUP WAS WOUNDED AND IS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID AS HE WAS SURROUNDED BY POLICE, "I'M FROM THE METAL WORKERS' UNION AND I'M NOT BADLY HURT."

3. CGT SUBSEC ROMERO TOLD EMBOFF HE DID NOT PERSONALLY KNOW
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ANY OF THE INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED BUT THAT THE LABOR SECTOR WAS

VERY ANGRY WITH CLARIN AND ITS EMPLOYEES FOR HAVING PERMITTED THE ADS TO BE PUBLISHED.

4. COMMENT. POSITIVE IDENTIFICATION OF THE ASSAILANTS HAS NOT YET BEEN MADE, ALTHOUGH THEY OPENLY ASSOCIATED THEMSELVES WITH THE MORE CONSERVATIVE LABOR ELEMENTS. THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS STRANGE TURN OF EVENTS APPEARS TO BE THAT THERE STILL ARE ARMED GROUPS IN ARGENTINA THAT HAVE TWO THINGS IN COMMON. FIRST, BOTH LEFT AND RIGHT PROFESS TO SUPPORT PERON FOR PRESIDENT, AND SECOND, THEY AREN'T RELUCTANT TO USE VIOLENCE TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES.

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30 JUN 2005

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